

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-6, without prejudice, and amend claim 7 as follows:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) An information recording medium provided with land tracks and groove tracks arranged alternately, both of which contain ~~long, narrow~~ information storage stripes for recording data, the information recording medium comprising in each of the information storage stripes:

a data region where the data are recorded; and

an identification region where boundaries between land tracks and groove tracks are protruded and recessed along the width of the land tracks and groove tracks, respectively, according to identification information which distinguishes the information storage stripe from the other information storage stripe,~~stripes~~, and

the identification region further comprising a land identification section where an averaged position of the boundary between the land track and groove track is offset to the land track ~~on average~~ and a groove identification section where an averaged position of the boundary between the land track and groove track is offset to the groove track ~~on average~~.